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TIMELY FARM TOPICS No. 36b-2



SIMPLE STEPS SAVE LIVES

An announcement by John H. Wetzel, Chairman of the Safety Council of the U. S. Department of Agriculture and Farm Safety Engineer for the Soil Conservation Service. Recorded June 15, 1945. Time: 1 minute 36 seconds not including suggested live introduction.

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ANNOUNCER: (LIVE) To prevent accidents on farms it takes more than talk....

It takes action. But just for a minute let's take time to talk about what kind of action to take. And here by transcription is John H. Wetzel, chairman of the Safety Council of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

TRANSCRIPTION:

WETZEL: During these days of war casualties...we may overlook the 1400 farm residents who are killed each month by farm home and farm work accidents. The men on the fighting fronts sacrificed their lives for a cause...that of freedom. The people who died on the farm front died for a cause too...But that cause was carelessness. One cause was to aid the world and this Nation...the other was to make the Nation poorer by needless loss of life.

When we begin to talk safety...most people somehow believe that the chances of accidents happening to them are very remote. But here are the facts. One farm family out of every five will have an accident or accidental death within its circle this year!

All this wasted life, pain and suffering could be prevented. Waste in peacetime is unfortunate... In wartime waste is tragic. Our farm labor force has never been so low. We can't spare a useful worker in the battle for food.

The farmer and the farm laborer can reduce the hazards of their jobs by following these simple steps. Find the hazard, such as faulty ladders, stairs unprotected by railings, hay chutes not protected by doors or safety railings, unguarded power shafts, open pits, and other unsafe conditions. After you find them, fix them -- not tomorrow, not on that rainy day, but right now.

Remember too you can be hurt or killed by machinery which is safe — through carelessness. Learn to work safely!

